

THE AMERICAN SOUND

A JOURNAL OF AMERICAN IDEAS



The American Sound is a project of Sen. James Talent of Missouri and Rep. John Boehner of Ohio. First published in 1997, *The American Sound* serves as forum for Republicans to propose, promote, and defend innovative and principled solutions to the long-term challenges facing America, while relying on traditional American values: freedom, responsibility, faith, opportunity.

FREEDOM, RESPONSIBILITY, FAITH, OPPORTUNITY

Offering more than the typical 800 word op-ed, *The American Sound* presents thoughtful ideas, arguments and solutions offered by the Republicans of today. It provides an opportunity to display a vision of a government that is accountable and relies on and respects the values and institutions of private life.

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN SOUND

The name of the journal - *The American Sound* - is inspired by President Ronald Reagan, and comes from his second inaugural address. As he spoke inside the Capitol on that frigid January day, President Reagan concluded his remarks with these profound words, which cut to the heart of American ideals:

“Now we hear again the echoes of our past: a general falls to his knees in the hard snow of Valley Forge; a lonely president paces the darkened halls, and ponders his struggle to preserve the Union; the men of the Alamo call out encouragement to each other; a settler pushes west and sings a song, and the song echoes out forever and fills the unknowing air.

It is the American sound. It is hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic, daring, decent, and fair. That's our heritage; that is our song. We sing it still. For all our problems, our differences, we are together as of old, as we raise our voices to the God who is the Author of this most tender music. And may He continue to hold us close as we fill the world with our sound - sound in unity, affection, and love - one people under God, dedicated to the dream of freedom that He has placed in the human heart, called upon now to pass that dream on to a waiting and hopeful world.”

The values outlined by President Reagan that day are the values we seek to promote in this journal. It is our hope that Republican Members will use this forum once again to argue for inventive policies that bolster these values and ideals. They represent the best of what it means to be an American.

GET INVOLVED

The American Sound is available online at republican.senate.gov/theamericansound/. For questions or comments, or if you would be interested in contributing an article on an idea or proposal, please contact:

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Submissions may appear in the print edition or on the website.